

I am fed up with having my privacy invaded by telephone solicitors. I receive more than one call per day, including hang-ups from the automated systems they utilize. It gets really bad in the last few weeks preceding an election as political parties, candidates and their campaign organizations, and groups supporting or opposing various ballot proposals call constantly. These are especially upsetting as they are mostly pre-recorded messages that wind up on my answering machine if I don't pick the phone up myself. Politicians take note: anyone that solicits me via telephone immediately loses my vote! I do not want any type of telephone solicitation or survey. My requests for removal from their lists get ignored and someone else from the company will call me sooner or later, sometimes the very same day! I do not believe that we consumers should have to pay to have these unwanted calls blocked. The phone companies are trying to get us coming and going. They provide the info and the means for the telemarketers and then try to sell us machines and/or services to thwart them. Kind of like taxes. You get taxed when you make money and taxed again when you spend it!

Bottom line: I, and most people I know, feel that telephone solicitations are an invasion of our privacy, an unwelcome interruption of our lives, and should be outlawed!!!

Period. No exceptions! Political as well. And do not forget "surveys" and "polls". Solicitations by mail through the postal service are fine. I can throw them away or look them over at my leisure. The only acceptable alternatives are to provide consumers like me with the means to reach through the phone line and choke the SOB at the other end, or force the solicitors to give the consumer the solicitors home phone number so that we can invade their privacy and harass them!

Thankyou and good luck! Rob